



ARUBA TODAY

Tuesday
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The Journey

Page 8

Aruba's English news leader and ultimate guide to paradise

Relentless rain floods roads in Northeast, leads to evacuations, rescues

By LISA RATHKE and JOHN MINCHILLO
Associated Press
ANDOVER, Vt. (AP) — Rescue teams raced into Vermont on Monday after heavy rain drenched parts of the Northeast, washing out roads, forcing evacuations and halting some airline travel. One person was killed in New York as she was trying to leave her home. Mike Cannon of Vermont Urban Search and Rescue said crews from North Carolina, Michigan and Connecticut were among those helping to get to towns that have been unreachable since torrents of rain belted the state overnight. The towns of Londonderry and Weston were inaccessible, Cannon said, and rescuers were heading there to do welfare checks. Water levels at several dams were being closely monitored. There have been no reports of injuries or deaths related to the flooding in Vermont, according to state emergency officials. Roads were closed across the state, including many along the spine of the Green Mountains.



Mud, rocks and debris from Sunday's flash flood cover a road on the campus of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Monday, July 10, 2023 in West Point, N.Y.

Continued on Page 2 Associated Press

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Relentless rain floods roads in Northeast, leads to evacuations, rescues

Continued from Front

Some people canoed their way to the Cavendish Baptist Church in Vermont, which had turned into a shelter. About 30 people waited it out, some of them making cookies for firefighters who were working to evacuate and rescue others. "People are doing OK. It's just stressful," shelter volunteer Amanda Gross said. Vermont Rep. Kelly Pajala said she and about half dozen others had to evacuate early Monday from a four-unit apartment building on the West River in Londonderry.

"The river was at our doorstep," said Pajala. "We threw some dry clothes and our cats into the car and drove to higher ground."

The slow-moving storm reached New England in the morning after hitting parts of New York and Connecticut on Sunday. Additional downpours in the region Monday raised the potential for flash flooding.

One of the worst hit places was New York's Hudson Valley, where rescuers found the body of a woman in her 30s whose home was surrounded by water. The force of the flash flooding dislodged boulders, which rammed into the woman's house and damaged part of its wall, Orange County Executive Steven Neuhaus told The Associated Press. Two other people escaped. "She was trying to get through (the flooding) with her dog," Neuhaus said, "and she was overwhelmed by tidal wave-type waves."

He said many roads and bridges were washed out. Officials believed everyone was accounted for, but they were trying to reach people to make sure they were OK.

Officials say the storm has already wrought tens of millions of dollars in damage. In New York, Gov. Kathy Hochul said at a news conference Monday that the storm sent "cars swirling in our streets" and dumped a "historic" amount of rain.

"Nine inches of rain in this community," Hochul said



A damaged car lays on a collapsed roadway along Route 32 in the Hudson Valley near Cornwall, N.Y., Monday, July 10, 2023.

Associated Press

during a briefing on a muddy street in Highland Falls. "They're calling this a '1,000 year event.'"

"It seems like the worst has passed in terms of the volume coming down. But now our job is to make sure that the roads and the bridges are passable," Hochul said at second briefing in a hard-hit section of the Finger Lakes.

Still, the governor said she was expanding the state of emergency to cover other areas of the state.

Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey said there have been reports of flooding in central and western Massachusetts and state emergency management officials have been in touch with local authorities.

"Right now things are under control, though the water is still accumulating so we're going to continue to watch that through the afternoon and the evening," she said. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point was pounded with more than 8 inches (20.32 centimeters) of rain that sent debris sliding onto some roads and washed others out. Superintendent

Lt. Gen. Steven W. Gilland said the recently arrived new cadets and others at the historic academy on the Hudson River were safe, but that assessing the damage will take time.

Atmospheric scientists say destructive flooding events across the globe have this in common: Storms are forming in a warmer atmosphere, making extreme rainfall a reality right now. The additional warming that scientists predict is coming will only make it worse. The storm also interrupted air and rail travel. There were hundreds of flight cancellations at Kennedy, LaGuardia and Newark airports and more than 200 canceled at Boston's Logan Airport in the last 24 hours, according to the Flightaware website. Amtrak temporarily suspended service between Albany and New York.

Vermont Gov. Phil Scott described the race to rescue flooding victims as "an all-hands-on-deck response" at a Monday press conference. Swift water rescue teams had conducted more than 10 rescues on

Monday, the governor later tweeted. "We have not seen rainfall like this since Irene, and in some places, it will surpass even that," he said. Scott was referring to Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011, when the state got 11 inches (28 centimeters) of rain in 24 hours. Irene killed six in the state, washed homes off their foundations and damaged or destroyed more than 200 bridges and 500 miles (805 kilometers) of highway.

Among the buildings flooded Monday was the Weston Playhouse in Weston, Vermont, which had been performing "Buddy -- The Buddy Holly Story" to sold-out audiences.

The Weston Theater Company's executive artistic director Susanna Gellert said the call was made at around 4 a.m. to evacuate 11 people associated with the production to higher ground and another 15 in nearby Ludlow. The three-floor playhouse, which had been damaged during Irene, was also flooded, with the dressing room and props room under water.

"As a theater, we were just

starting to get back from the COVID shutdown," Gellert said. "To have this happen right now is painfully heartbreaking."

Cara Philbin, 37, of Ludlow, Vermont, was awakened by a neighbor early Monday and told to clear out of her second-floor apartment because the parking lot was already flooded.

"He told me me, 'You need to get out of here ... your car is going to float away, and I suggest you do not stay,'" said Philbin. The neighbor took her car keys and moved her car to a higher spot, while she called her parents and then drove to their home to ride out the storm, she said. Ross Andrews and his wife were driving back home to Calais, Vermont, on Monday when he saw trucks parked at a 230-year-old dam with crews trying to keep it from failing. There were trees down everywhere.

"The interstate was closed right at our exit. Our road was closed right at our driveway. We managed to thread our way back just in the nick of time," he said. □

Biden administration asks appeals court to block order limiting its contacts with social media

By KEVIN MCGILL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Biden administration asked a federal appeals court Monday to temporarily block a lower court's order limiting executive branch officials' discussions with social media companies about controversial online posts.

The request for an emergency stay was filed at the 5th U.S. District Court of Appeals shortly after U.S. District Judge Terry Doughty rejected an administration motion that he put his own July 4 order on hold. The order came in a lawsuit filed by Republican attorneys general in Louisiana and Missouri, as well as a conservative website owner and four individual critics of government COVID-19 policies.

The lawsuit claimed the administration, in effect, censored free speech by using threats of regulatory action or protection while pressuring companies to remove



U.S. President Joe Biden walks back dropped by Marine One upon arriving at Stansted airport, in London, Monday, July 10, 2023.

Associated Press

what it deemed misinformation. COVID-19 vaccines, legal issues involving President Joe Biden's son Hunter and election fraud allegations were among the topics spotlighted in the lawsuit.

Doughty was nominated to the federal bench by former President Don-

ald Trump. His injunction blocked the Department of Health and Human Services, the FBI and multiple other government agencies and administration officials from meeting with or contacting social media companies for the purpose of "encouraging, pressuring, or inducing in any

manner the removal, deletion, suppression, or reduction of content containing protected free speech."

Administration attorneys said in the motion filed at the 5th Circuit that Doughty's ruling was too broad and vague, and had the potential to chill government officials' speech on

important matters. And they said Doughty failed to point to any evidence that the administration had made threats against social media companies to coerce them to take down posts.

"The district court identified no evidence suggesting that a threat accompanied any request for the removal of content. Indeed, the order denying the stay presumably highlighting the ostensibly strongest evidence referred to 'a series of public media statements,'" the administration said.

They asked that the 5th Circuit block Doughty's order while the case is pursued at the appeals court in New Orleans or, at minimum, grant a 10-day block of the order so the administration could prepare to go to the Supreme Court to seek a longer stay.

Earlier Monday, Doughty rejected administration requests that he stay his own order pending appeal. □

U.S. intelligence assessment says Iran not currently developing nuclear weapons

By MATTHEW LEE
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. intelligence assessment says Iran is not pursuing nuclear weapons at the moment but has ramped up activities that could help it develop them.

The assessment from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence released Monday says Iran has moved to increase its capacity to produce an atomic bomb since 2020 but has stopped short of that so far.

The findings corresponded with previous U.S. assessments about Iran's nuclear program, although many in Congress and elsewhere have been skeptical of those.

The Biden administration has been defending its de-

sire to return to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or JCPOA, since it first took office. That effort has been

complicated in recent months by the suspension of its chief negotiator, Rob Malley, who was placed on unpaid leave last month pending an investigation



In this photo released by the office of the Iranian supreme leader, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, right, visits an exhibition of the country's nuclear achievements, at his office compound in Tehran, Iran, Sunday, June 11, 2023.

Associated Press

into claims he mishandled classified information.

"Iran is not currently undertaking the key nuclear weapons-development activities that would be necessary to produce a testable nuclear device," according to the two-page unclassified synopsis of the report.

However, Iran is also pursuing "research and development activities that would bring it closer to producing the fissile material needed for completing a nuclear device following a decision to do so," the report said.

In that regard, Iran continues to violate the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal regarding uranium enrichment that it agreed to with world powers, the report said. The Trump administration withdrew from that

agreement in 2018.

"Iran continues to increase the size and enrichment level of its uranium stockpile beyond JCPOA limits," the report said, adding that it also continues to exceed JCPOA restrictions on advanced centrifuge research and development. These findings have been generally supported by inspections from the UN's nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In addition to the nuclear findings, the U.S. intelligence report said that Iranian ballistic missile programs continue to pose a significant threat to countries around the Middle East. "Iran has emphasized improving the accuracy, lethality, and reliability of its missiles," it said. □

Dig begins for the remains of children at Native American boarding school

By **TRISHA AHMED** and **CHARLIE NEIBERGALL**
Associated Press

GENOA, Neb. (AP) — In a remote patch of a long-closed Native American boarding school, near a canal and some railroad tracks, Nebraska's state archeologist and two teammates filled buckets with dirt and sifted through it as if they were searching for gold.

They're trying to find the bodies of dozens of children who died at the school and have been lost for decades, a mystery that archeologists aim to unravel as they dig feet deep and meters wide in a central Nebraska field that was part of the sprawling campus a century ago.

People toting shovels, trowels and even smaller tools are searching the unmarked site where ground-penetrating radar suggested a possible location for the cemetery of the Genoa Indian Industrial School.

Genoa was part of a national system of more than 400 Native American boarding schools that attempted to assimilate Indigenous people into white culture by separating children from their families and cutting them off from their heritage. And the discovery of more than 200 children's remains buried at the site of



A member of a team affiliated with the National Park Service uses ground-penetrating radar in hopes of detecting what is beneath the soil while searching for more than 80 Native American children buried at the former Genoa Indian Industrial School, Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, in Genoa, Neb.

what was once Canada's largest Indigenous residential school has magnified interest in the troubling legacy both in Canada and the U.S. since 2021.

"For all those families with students who died here in Genoa and weren't returned home — and that information being lost for over 90 years now — it creates this perpetual cycle of trauma," Dave Williams, the state archeologist, said Monday.

Williams added, "Finding the location of the cem-

etery, and the burials contained within, will be a small step towards bringing some peace and comfort" to tribes after a long period of uncertainty where children were sent to boarding schools and never came home.

The school, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) west of Omaha, opened in 1884 and at its height was home to nearly 600 students from more than 40 tribes across the country. It closed in 1931 and most buildings were long ago demolished.

For decades, residents of the tiny community of Genoa, with help from Native Americans, researchers and state officials, have sought the location of a forgotten cemetery where the bodies of up to 80 students are believed to be buried.

Judi gaiashkibos, the executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, whose mother attended the school in the late 1920s, has been involved in the cemetery effort for years and planned

to travel to Genoa on Monday. She said it's difficult to spend time in the community where many Native Americans suffered, but the vital search can help with healing and bringing the children's voices to the surface.

"It's an honor to go on behalf of my ancestors and those who lost their lives there and I feel entrusted with a huge responsibility," gaiashkibos said.

Newspaper clippings, records and a student's letter indicate at least 86 students died at the school, usually due to diseases such as tuberculosis and typhoid, but at least one death was blamed on an accidental shooting.

Researchers identified 49 of the children killed but have not been able to find names for 37 students. The bodies of some of those children were returned to their homes but others are believed to have been buried on the school grounds at a location long ago forgotten.

As part of an effort to find the cemetery, last summer dogs trained to detect the faint odor of decaying remains searched the area and signaled they had found a burial site in a narrow piece of land bordered by a farm field, railroad tracks and a canal. □

Associated Press



Homes in Southern California's Palos Verdes Peninsula are seen torn apart by earth movement in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. on Monday, July 10, 2023.

Associated Press

ROLLING HILLS ESTATES, Calif. (AP) — A dozen homes torn apart by earth movement on Southern California's Palos Verdes Peninsula during the weekend

were likely to fall into an adjacent canyon, an official said.

The homes in the Los Angeles County city of Rolling Hills Estates were hastily

12 homes torn apart by landslide on Palos Verdes Peninsula

evacuated by firefighters on Saturday when cracks began appearing in structures and the ground.

Walls and roofs began to fail as the land continued to slide, the county Fire Department showed in video released on social media. Significant land movement overnight completely destroyed the homes, Janice Hahn, chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, said in a social media post Sunday.

"To think that these homes were intact, you know, yesterday afternoon, and today you can hear the creaking, the cracking, the

crumbling," Hahn told a news conference Sunday. "They're going to fall."

The city was collaborating with county agencies and the Red Cross to support displaced residents, Mayor Britt Huff said in a statement. Officials did not know yet what caused the earth movement, said Pete Goodrich, a Rolling Hills Estates building official.

Damaging landslides have occurred previously on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, which rises high above the Pacific on the county's south coast and offers residents spectacular views of the ocean and greater Los

Angeles. A landslide that began in 1956 destroyed 140 homes in the Portuguese Bend area of the city of Rancho Palos Verdes, and earth continues to move there. The slide coincided with construction of a road through the area, which is atop an ancient landslide.

Among other notable earth movements on the peninsula, a 2011 slide severed the blufftop ocean road near White Point in the San Pedro section of Los Angeles several months after engineers began noticing cracks and fenced off the area for study. □

Europe signs off on a new privacy pact that allows people's data to keep flowing to U.S.

By KELVIN CHAN
AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — The European Union signed off Monday on a new agreement over the privacy of people's personal information that gets pinged across the Atlantic, aiming to ease European concerns about electronic spying by American intelligence agencies. The EU-U.S. Data Privacy Framework has an adequate level of protection for personal data, the EU's executive commission said. That means it's comparable to the 27-nation's own stringent data protection standards, so companies can use it to move information from Europe to the United States without adding extra security.

U.S. President Joe Biden signed an executive order in October to implement the deal after reaching a preliminary agreement with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. Washington and Brussels made an effort to resolve their yearslong battle over the safety of EU citizens' data that tech companies store in the U.S. after two



A worker adjusts the U.S. and EU flags prior to the arrival of European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell and United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken during the EU-U.S. Energy Council Ministerial meeting at the European Council building in Brussels, on April 4, 2023.

Associated Press

earlier data transfer agreements were thrown out. "Personal data can now flow freely and safely from the European Economic Area to the United States without any further conditions or authorizations," EU Justice Commissioner Didier Reynders said at a press briefing in Brussels.

Washington and Brussels long have clashed over differences between the EU's stringent data privacy rules and the comparatively lax regime in the U.S., which lacks a federal privacy law. That created uncertainty for tech giants including Google and Facebook parent Meta, raising the

prospect that U.S. tech firms might need to keep European data that is used for targeted ads out of the United States. The European privacy campaigner who triggered legal challenges over the practice, however, dismissed the latest deal. Max Schrems said the new agreement failed

to resolve core issues and vowed to challenge it to the EU's top court.

Schrems kicked off the legal saga by filing a complaint about the handling of his Facebook data after whistleblower Edward Snowden's revelations a decade ago about how the U.S. government eavesdropped on people's online data and communications.

Calling the new agreement a copy of the previous one, Schrems said his Vienna-based group, NOYB, was readying a legal challenge and expected the case to be back in the European Court of Justice by the end of the year.

"Just announcing that something is 'new', 'robust' or 'effective' does not cut it before the Court of Justice," Schrems said. "We would need changes in U.S. surveillance law to make this work and we simply don't have it."

The framework, which takes effect Tuesday, promises strengthened safeguards against data collection abuses and provides multiple avenues for redress. □

Jews and Muslims come together at Srebrenica anniversary of Europe's only post-World War II genocide

By ELDAR EMRIC
Associated Press

SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Jews and Muslims came together on Monday in Bosnia on the eve of the 28th anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre, Europe's only acknowledged genocide since the Holocaust, to talk about ways of using their shared pain to help rid the world of hate and bigotry. More than 8,000 Bosniak mainly Muslim men and boys were killed in July 1995 in Srebrenica, after Bosnian Serb troops took hold of the eastern town. The carnage has been declared a genocide by two U.N. courts. "It is absolutely critical for

the future of both the Jewish people and the (Muslim)

Bosniak people, for us to join forces in remembrance



United States Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina Michael J. Murphy kneels next to the coffins containing remains of 30 newly identified victims of the Srebrenica Genocide in Potocari, Bosnia, Monday, July 10, 2023.

Associated Press

in order to make sure that these type of atrocities not be allowed to occur in the future," Menachem Rosensaft, the general counsel of the World Jewish Congress, told The Associated Press. Founded in 1936, the World Jewish Congress, or WJC, is the leading international organization connecting and protecting Jewish communities globally, in more than 100 countries. Rosensaft was leading a delegation of Jewish scholars and young diplomats attending a conference co-organized by the WJC and the Srebrenica Memorial Center on preserving the collective memory of genocide victims and

confronting Holocaust and genocide denial.

The day-long conference, held in Srebrenica as part of this year's commemoration ceremonies, served as a forum for the two communities to talk about living with the pain of being the victims of the ultimate crime of bigotry. "If we as Jews and as Muslims understand that we are also joined by that pain, we can build on that constructively to also forge the world beyond suffering in which (genocide) becomes unimaginable," said Rosensaft, who is the son of two Jewish survivors of Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen Nazi concentration camps. □

As temperatures soared in Europe last year, so did heat-related deaths, study finds

By **FRANK JORDANS**

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Scientists say crushing temperatures that blanketed Europe last summer may have led to more than 61,000 heat-related deaths, highlighting the need for governments to address the health impacts of global warming.

In their study, published Monday in the journal *Nature Medicine*, researchers examined official mortality figures from 35 European countries and found a marked increase in deaths between late May and early September last year compared with the average recorded over a 30-year period. The increase in heat-related deaths was higher among older people, women and in Mediterranean countries, they found. But the data also indicated that measures taken in France since a deadly heatwave two decades ago may have helped prevent deaths there last year. "In the pattern of summer mean temperatures in Europe during the summer of 2022, we don't see borders," said co-author Joan Ballester of the Barcelona Institute for Global Health.



A tourist uses a fan to shade her face from the sun while waiting to watch the Changing of the Guard ceremony outside Buckingham Palace, during hot weather in London, July 18, 2022.

Associated Press

The highest temperatures were recorded across a swath of the southwestern Europe, from Spain to France and Italy.

"But when we look at the heat related mortality, we start to see borders," Ballester told *The Associated Press*. While France had 73 heat-related deaths per million inhabitants last summer, Spain's rate was 237 and Italy's was 295, the

study found.

"Possibly France drew lessons from the experience of 2003," he said.

France's warning system includes public announcements with advice on how to stay cool and encouraging people to drink water and avoid alcohol.

Not all of the heat-related deaths calculated across Europe last summer were linked to climate change.

Some would have occurred even if summer temperatures had stayed in line with the long-term average. But there is no doubt that the intense heat in 2022 which saw numerous European records tumble led to higher mortality rates, as other studies on heat deaths have also shown.

The authors calculated that there were over 25,000 more heat-related deaths

last summer than the average from 2015 to 2021.

Without appropriate prevention measures, "we would expect a heat-related mortality burden of 68,116 deaths on average every summer by the year 2030," the authors said. They forecast that figure would rise to over 94,000 by 2040 and more than 120,000 by mid-century.

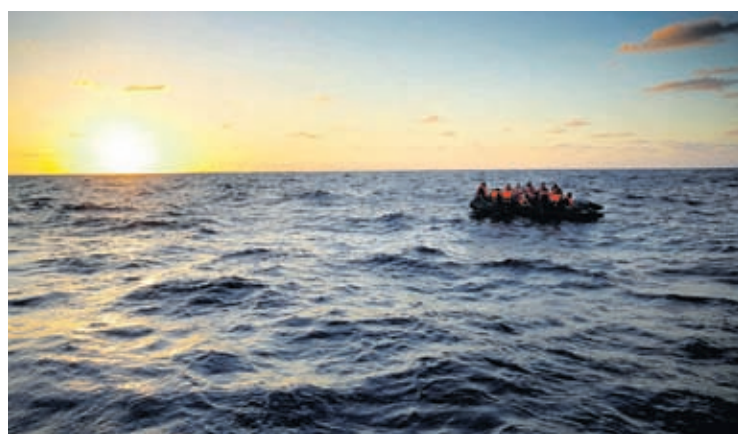
Governments in Spain and Germany recently announced new measures to address the effects of hot weather on their populations. In Switzerland, a group of seniors is citing the danger posed to older women by intense heat in a court case seeking to force the government to take tougher climate action. One difficulty for researchers is that heat-related deaths are often happening in people with pre-existing conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, said Matthias an der Heiden of Germany's Robert Koch Institute, who was not involved in the study. This means that heat is not the underlying cause of deaths and therefore not recorded in the cause of deaths statistics. □

A Libyan court jails 38 human traffickers over the deaths of 11 Europe-bound migrants at sea

CAIRO (AP) — A court in eastern Libya sentenced five people to life in prison after they were convicted of human trafficking over the deaths of 11 migrants who were on a rickety boat trying to cross the Mediterranean to Europe, the office of Libya's chief prosecutor said Monday. The court in the city of Bayda also sentenced nine other defendants to 15 years in prison each, the office of General Prosecutor al-Sediq al-Sourr said in a statement. Another 24 others were jailed for a year, the statement added. The defendants were part of a network smuggling migrants from Libya to Eu-

rope, it said. The statement did not say when the deadly shipwreck took place or provide further details.

The court ruling was the latest in the conflict-racked North African nation to target traffickers. On Friday,



Migrants wait to be rescued by the Spanish NGO Open Arms lifeguards during a rescue operation at international waters zone of Libya SAR (Search and Rescue) in the Mediterranean sea, on Sept. 15, 2022.

Associated Press

the chief prosecutor's office said another court in the capital, Tripoli, sentenced one defendant to life in prison and two others to 20 years each for human trafficking.

In recent years, Libya has become a major transit point for Middle Eastern and African migrants fleeing conflict and poverty to seek a better life in Europe. The oil-rich country descended into chaos following a NATO-backed uprising in 2011 that toppled and killed longtime autocrat Moammar Gadhafi.

Human traffickers have benefited from the instability in Libya, smuggling migrants across borders from

six nations, including Egypt, Algeria and Sudan. They then pack desperate people into ill-equipped rubber boats and other vessels for the risky voyage across the central Mediterranean.

For years, the United Nations and rights groups have decried the inhumane conditions faced by migrants trafficked and smuggled across the Mediterranean.

In March, U.N.-backed human rights experts said there was evidence that crimes against humanity had been committed against Libyans and migrants in Libya, including women being forced into sexual slavery. □

Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!

(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can respond to fluctuating sea



levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the wind-



ward side of Aruba. These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times on the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.

This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserve our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! ☐

Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

ST. CRUZ — The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species

of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.



Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while



sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion

going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks.

Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! ☐




Amuse is back with a new concept

New Chef's Table Restaurant

6 Tables per night.

The Journey

TO CULINARY EXCELLENCE



Located at the Windmill in Palm Beach Monday to Friday at 7pm Reservation required.

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Remember Amuse Bistro?...

They're back with a new concept; The Journey



Known for their successful and top-notch establishments Amuse Bistro and Amuse Sunset, Chef Patrick van der Donk and his wife Yvette, who is a certified sommelier, are back with their latest gastronomic adventure that is now to be found at The Journey, beside the famous red windmill (De Olde Moulin) just off Eagle Beach, and will surely bring a brand new concept to take you on a culinary journey you will never forget.

A family of 5, Chef Patrick, his wife Yvette and their 8 year old triplet sons, started their trajectory about a decade ago, with the renowned and loved Amuse Bistro that saw immense success. Due to a tragic incident in which the restaurant burned down, they gathered all their strength and continued their success at a new location behind the airport, as a brand new beginning named Amuse Sunset until they saw it come to an end. After overcoming unforeseen circumstances like the pandemic, the family is stronger than ever and reading to begin a new adventure and welcome you aboard.

The Journey offers a brand new, elegant and chic concept. Taking the table in 'Chef's Table' to heart, this new interpretation of 'chef's table' features stand-alone tables which seat only 20 patrons, all who must arrive before 7pm. Once you choose to embark on this adventure, the night will start once you arrived at your destination, right next to the mill in Palm Beach, where you will be welcomed with a toast of bubbles (on the house) on the terrace while you wait for the beginning of an unforgettable night. Once the clock hits 7pm, you will be taken into the restaurant for a magical five-course Chef's choice pre-fixed menu that will take your taste buds on a high class world tour.

You can opt to pair your courses with the sommelier's expertly curated choice of fine wines by the glass or order a bottle from their impressive wine list. With an open kitchen concept, you get to witness the chef bring his inspiration and creations to life. By the end of the night, you are guaranteed to have made a few new friends with whom you've enjoyed a wonderful experience of culinary bliss.

The Journey is open from Mon-Fri and is reservation only, we ask that all guests with a reservation arrive before 7pm. For further questions or information, refer to their website <https://thejourneyaruba.com/> or contact Yvette at +297 565 0535

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Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the

island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.arubanationalpark.org

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most

known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. www.arubalighthouse.com will give you more information.



Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you

will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook. □



Episode 17 Shaman

Boratios, Beykes, Boitius, Whitchdoctere are some of the titles people use to identify those who practice the art of traditional healing. Locally they were known as **Curanderos** or **Curiosos**, "titles" which may have come from the inquisitive nature of those who practice the natural way of healing with assistance of spiritual powers of plants.

What is a Curioso? A Curioso is a spiritual healer of a group or tribe who adhere to the belief in ancient practices like the Caquetian Boratios Shamanism. The belief and practice incorporates a range of beliefs, customs, ceremonies and rituals regarding communication with the spiritual world in which their religious leader, a Curioso or Curandero enters a supernatural realm particularly when the tribe is facing adversity or need to obtain solutions to problems affecting their community including sickness.

The doctrine associated with Curandera or Curiosos incorporates the ancient role of Shamans, which is probably one of the oldest beliefs man created which origins dates back to the Stone Age.

The term "Shaman" is derived from the Sanskrit word "sraman" meaning a worker or toiler.

Native American Shamanism

There are two kinds of spiritual leaders or guides in prehistoric Caribbean Era:



they were called "Beyke" and "Boitiu". Beykes are ceremonial leaders and teachers of groups. The beyke's responsibility is to organize and lead group ceremonies which are necessary to maintain the balance and connection between the people and the Divine Consciousness of the Great Spirit. The goal is to learn and become an expert in the tradition so that he or she can then teach and be a vehicle for the evolution and blossoming of the group.

The boitiu, on the other hand, is an explorer. The boitiu's job is to go into realms where not everyone can go. The boitiu does this through a technique called "journeying". The journey takes the boitiu to places where she or he can gain spiritual power or wisdom and then bring it back to the community. These places are located in the spiritual realms that are identified as the "Three Cosmic Levels" of shamanic geography; the Upper World, the Middle World and the Lower World. Some of the power that the boitiu brings back from the spirit realm is used to heal. The boitiu is what many know as a "shaman".

We must note that Shamanism is not a specific religion but a doctrine based on a belief that physical nature might be brought under the control of man, in the person of a Shaman. The Shaman is believed to have a spiritual connection with animals, supernatural creatures and all elements of nature. The Shaman helps members of the tribe to identify personal Animal Totems that are spirit guides who walk through life with them and sometimes appear in dreams or Vision Quests or on a Spiritual Journey in the form of an animal.

Shamanism is mixed with other beliefs such as Animism, Totemism, Ritualism and Fetishism beliefs



like in the case of Aruba's Curiosos and Curanderos who had incorporated or adapted Roman Catholic beliefs which they took over from the Spaniards to their existing natives' practices. Many items such as crucifix, rosary, candles and images or statues of saints were used in order to supplanting their natural spirits in order to maintain

basic traditions.

The role of the Curioso or Curandero.

The healer uses appropriate words, objects and rituals to protect men from evil spirits - his role is that of opponent to the bad spirits and of guardian to the ordinary man. The role of the Curioso Curandero differs from tribe to tribe as there

are some regional and tribal variations to their beliefs in Shamanism. There are, however, several common roles that are shared by every Shaman, Healer, Curioso or Curandero.

He or she is a healer, communicator, educator, prophet and a mystic leader:

Communicator: provider of help and advice to members of the community
Educator: keeper of myth, tradition and community wisdom

Healer: spiritual Healing powers and the ability to treat sickness caused by evil spirits - hence the westernized name Medicine Man.

Prophet: ability to perform various forms of prophecy
Mystic: wisdom to communicate with the spirit world, leave the body and enter the supernatural world to search for answers

In many tribes, including North American plain communities, the Medicine man also had the role of the head warrior or war chief which made him the most powerful and influential man of the tribe.

Source: Island Insight column by Etnia Nativa.



Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never had heard of, but really healthy and delicious.

Mispel

This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

Kenepa



Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

Druif



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

Tamarind



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

Comcomber chiquito



This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vi-

tamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

Pampuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pompuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Scout

1 Following shelters

6 Miles of music

11 Rich cake

12 Decree

13 TV network, e.g.

15 In the past

16 Road goo

17 Maher-shala of "Moonlight"

18 Shaped shrub

20 Chess piece

21 Tear

22 Plane part

23 Bike part

26 Flexes

27 Yale students

28 Pot brew

29 Shade tree

30 Refuses to go along with

34 Family

35 Pole worker

36 In the style of

37 Wizard, e.g.

40 Useful skill

41 Polo, for one

42 Exams

DOWN

1 Chance to swing

2 Do without

3 Scout group

4 Pilot's guess: Abbr.

5 Nickname for a

6 Sweet-heart

7 TV spots

8 Thiamin or niacin

9 Rey-kjavik's nation

T	H	I	C	K	L	A	S	H
R	E	N	E	E	A	L	L	E
A	L	L	O	Y	S	P	A	R
D	I	E	P	I	E	N	O	W
E	X	T	R	A	C	R	E	D
O	D	E	L	E	N	O		
S	T	O	W	S	S	I	R	E
W	A	N	E	A	C	T		
E	X	T	R	A	C	H	E	E
E	T	A	N	E	O	V	E	X
T	I	R	E	D	O	L	I	V
S	P	I	N	E	L	I	T	E
S	O	D	S	S	T	A	R	T

Yesterday's answer

10 Orchestra section

14 Complain

19 Some nest eggs

22 Watered down

23 Eyes discreetly

24 Squashed circle

25 Low light

26 Northern Ireland city

28 Soft mineral

30 Karate levels

31 Glossy fabric

32 Vigilant

33 Bakery buys

38 Rent out

39 That woman

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
13					14				
15				16			17		
18			19				20		
		21			22				
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27				28					
29			30			31	32	33	
34			35			36			
37		38				39			
40					41				
42					43				

7-11

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different

7-11 CRYPTOQUOTE

B D P G P Z G P E T J P Z N B K M N R

I N G M Z F P I Y K B D T N B Z

B P G G K J R P Q P X B D

— E K P B U I F D P

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: EACH OF US IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING AND TO EVERY HUMAN BEING. — SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

Liz Weston: Saving for retirement just got more complicated

By LIZ WESTON of NerdWallet

The Secure Act 2.0 legislation that passed late last year added new retirement savings options but also has a few potential catches for unsuspecting savers. Understanding these possible pitfalls may help you make better decisions, or at least be prepared for what's to come. In my last column, I covered one set of these changes: new exceptions to the 10% federal penalty for tapping retirement money early. For this column, I'll cover what you need to know about Secure 2.0's changes to catch-up contributions and company matches for workplace plans.

A POTENTIALLY PROBLEMATIC CATCH-UP PROVISION

Catch-up provisions have long allowed older workers to put more money into retirement plans. In 2023, for example, people 50 and older can contribute an additional \$7,500 to 401(k)s and 403(b)s, on top of the standard \$22,500 deferral limit for all employees in those plans.

Contributions that go into a plan's pre-tax option are deductible. But starting next year, people who earn \$145,000 or more will no longer get a tax deduction for their catch-up contributions to workplace retirement plans. They'll be required instead to contribute the money to the plan's Roth option. (People earning less than \$145,000 may have the option, but not the requirement, to put catch-up contributions into the Roth.)

Withdrawals from Roths are tax-free in retirement,



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

which can be a huge boon to many savers, says Colleen Carcone, director of wealth planning strategies at financial services firm TIAA.

Contributing to a Roth is often recommended for younger workers who expect to be in the same or higher tax bracket in retirement.

But many people's tax brackets drop once they retire. Roth contributions can make less sense for older workers who may be paying a higher tax rate on their contributions than they'd avoid on their withdrawals.

Many financial planners still recommend putting at least some money into a Roth so retirees can better control their tax bill in retirement, Carcone says.

However, losing the tax deduction could discour-

age people from making catch-up contributions, says economist Olivia S. Mitchell, executive director of the Pension Research Council, which researches retirement security issues.

And there's another issue: Not all workplace plans have a Roth option. If an employer doesn't add a Roth option, no one will be able to make catch-up contributions, Collado says.

ANOTHER PROBLEMATIC PROVISION: LAST-MINUTE CATCH-UPS

Beginning in 2025, workers ages 60 through 63 can make even larger catch-up contributions to workplace retirement plans. The maximum will be whichever is more: \$10,000 or 150% of the standard catch-up contribution limit. The \$10,000 will be adjusted annually for inflation. □

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James Spader bids farewell to an intriguing criminal mastermind as 'The Blacklist' finale approaches

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Raymond "Red" Reddington is finally hanging up his famous black fedora and fitting for a manipulative genius he's doing it on his own terms.

"The Blacklist" ends its 10-year NBC run Thursday with a two-hour send-off, and star James Spader says the cast and crew relished the chance to take their time saying goodbye.

"I was very, very glad we were able to end it exactly the way we wanted to end it. It was deliberate and we weren't taken by surprise in terms of when the ending was going to come," he tells The Associated Press. "You'll see that the ending has conviction and we commit to it."

The end of "The Blacklist" is a swan song for Reddington, one of the most intriguing and delicious characters on television. A master of brokering shadowy deals for criminals, he offered his help to the FBI tracking down the world's most dangerous criminals.

Spader reveals that the show filmed mostly in New York City with an embrace of international charac-



This image released by NBC shows James Spader as Raymond Reddington in a scene from "The Blacklist."

ters went overseas for the finale. "The Blacklist" ends in Spain.

"I really felt like this was complete and I loved how it really completed a circle, in a way," he says. "It wasn't just an unbroken line from point A to point Z, but it was a circle of sorts."

The show attracted Spader all those years ago because he was looking for something that would sus-

tain both his interest and the viewer's for more than 20 episodes a season, or in his words, create a "limitless landscape."

The pilot introduced Reddington as an fugitive criminal whose enterprises were worldwide, checking one box for the actor. Spader was also looking for a show that was fluid in tone, which the pilot also delivered.

"I would not be as curious

about a show that was either just a drama or a show that was just a comedy," he says. "I felt that it was sort of nice that this show was very, very intense and brutal at times and then, at other times, very irreverent and sometimes very emotional."

Reddington, infused with Spader's elliptical charm, was a stylish addition to network TV, a character

who could make an amazing frittata with just a toaster oven and who collected sabers from the Crimean War. He was not good, certainly, but not bad, either. "He's a scary monster and people like him," Spader says.

Reddington is deeply cultured, a man able to converse about Cary Grant, the Piazza del Campo in Siena or Kai Tak Airport. Nicknamed "The Concierge of Crime," he said deeply profound things like, "Not every answer is worth knowing" and "I can only lead you to the truth. I can't make you believe it."

"He inhabits the whole world, he really does. He lives in it and he really loves it. And he loves life," says Spader, a three-time Emmy winner. "I guess one would understand the value of life if one has to take it every so often."

Even when laying low, Reddington shone. In the fifth season, he was reduced to living in a motor lodge, hanging poolside wearing a baseball cap, but rose again. In federal prison, he managed to drink little bottles of smuggled-in champagne. Reddington was fearless. □

Associated Press

Madonna says she's 'on the road to recovery' following ICU stay, postpones North American tour dates

By **MARIA SHERMAN**

AP Music Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Madonna says she is focused on her health and getting back on stage after a "serious bacterial infection" that led to her hospitalization in an intensive care unit for several days last month.

"I'm on the road to recovery and incredibly grateful for all the blessings in my life," the pop superstar wrote on Instagram. "My first thought when I woke up in the hospital was my children. My second thought was that I did not want to disappoint anyone

who bought tickets for my tour. I also didn't want to let down the people who worked tirelessly with me over the last few months to create my show."

"My focus now is on my health and getting stronger and I assure you, I'll be back with you as soon as I can," she continued.

The North American leg of her career-spanning Celebration Tour, originally scheduled to kick off July 15 in Vancouver and run through October 8 in Las Vegas, has been postponed. Her tour will now start on October 14, at London's O2 Arena.

Live Nation confirmed the postponement. "Rescheduled dates will be announced as soon as possible. Fans are encouraged to hold onto their tickets as they will be valid for the new dates once announced," a statement read.

According to her manager Guy Oseary, on June 24, Madonna "developed a serious bacterial infection which led to a several-day stay in the ICU," as he wrote on Instagram a few days later. "Her health is improving, however she is still under medical care. A full recovery is expected." □



Madonna appears at the 30th annual GLAAD Media Awards in New York on May 4, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

Georgia Tech's Christopher Eubanks stuns Tsitsipas at Wimbledon

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

— Until about a week ago, even Chris Eubanks did not really believe he was capable of this sort of thing of beating the world's best tennis players at Wimbledon, of reaching the quarterfinals at any Grand Slam tournament, of winning match after match after match on grass courts.

"I would show up to tour events saying, 'Oh, can I get through a couple rounds of here?'" he said during an interview the day before play began at the All England Club. "Now I genuinely can say, probably for the first time, I'm showing up to tournaments with higher expectations and really wanting to do well and put my best foot forward. I'm no longer feeling OK just being there. I know that I belong."

Does he ever.

Eubanks, a 6-foot-7, big-serving American making his Wimbledon debut at age 27 right after claiming the first ATP title of his career, reached the quarterfinals at a major for the first time by stunning two-time Slam runner-up Stefanos Tsitsipas 3-6, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in a little over three hours on Monday.

"It's surreal. I can't really



Christopher Eubanks of the US falls after playing a return to Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece in a men's singles match on day eight of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Monday, July 10, 2023.

describe it," said Eubanks, who is from Atlanta and played college tennis at Georgia Tech.

"I just think the entire experience, all together, has just been a whirlwind. It's been something that you dream about," Eubanks said. "I didn't really know if that dream would actually come true."

I'm sitting here in it now, so it's pretty cool."

He is ranked a career-best 43rd right now and had a win-loss record of merely 6-10 before going on the

run to the trophy at Mallorca, Spain, on July 1. That came on grass, which he decided he hated a month ago calling it "the stupidest surface" in a text he sent to International Tennis Hall of Fame member Kim Clijsters after exiting in the second round at a low-level ATP Challenger Tour event.

"Those words will never come out of my mouth for the rest of my career. The grass and I, we've had a very strenuous, I would say, relationship over the years," Eubanks said after

accumulating 53 winners, 16 more than Tsitsipas. "But right now, I think it's my best friend."

He is now on a nine-match winning streak after adding the upset of the No. 5-seeded Tsitsipas to an earlier victory over No. 12 Cam Norrie at the All England Club. Next comes another challenge, meeting No. 3 Daniil Medvedev, the 2021 U.S. Open champion, for a berth in the semifinals.

"I know I need to be at my 100% and absolute best physically, tennis-wise, and

mentally to try to beat him," said Medvedev, who won his only previous meeting against Eubanks, at the Miami Masters in March. "He is not scared to make a bad shot and still to go to the net and try to finish the point there. Definitely a little bit different from other players."

This is just the ninth Grand Slam tournament for Eubanks, who previously never had been past the second round at one of the sport's most prestigious events. After questioning his ability to contend for titles, Eubanks thought about pursuing television commentary instead, and he's worked on-air for Tennis Channel.

But he sure is having a terrific time with a racket in his hand these days.

And between matches, too.

"I checked my phone. It's a bit nuts right now. It's crazy to see my social media feed that I'm just used to kind of going to (and now) seeing it's a lot of me. I'm like, 'What is this? This is weird,'" Eubanks said. "But I think I've been able to find a way to compartmentalize everything, realize this is a pretty big moment, but also saying, 'This is a tennis match that I need to play in a couple days.'" □

Carolina Panthers inducting Julius Peppers, Muhsin Muhammad into Hall of Honor

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

The Carolina Panthers will induct defensive end Julius Peppers and wide receiver Muhsin Muhammad into the team's Hall of Honor.

The inductions will take place at Bank of America Stadium during halftime of the Oct. 29 game against the Houston Texans, the team announced Monday. Peppers, the No. 2 pick in 2002 draft, played 10 of his 17 NFL seasons with the Panthers and was selected to the league's All-Decade Team in the 2000s and

2010s. He was a three-time All-Pro selection and ranks fourth in NFL history with 159 1/2 sacks, finishing in the top 10 in the league in sacks six times. He remains the only player in league history with at least 150 and 10 interceptions.

Muhammad spent 11 of his 14 NFL seasons with Carolina and was chosen All-Pro in 2004. He remains second in franchise history with 696 receptions, 9,255 receiving yards and 50 touchdowns behind only Steve Smith Sr. Muhammad caught an

85-yard touchdown pass in Super Bowl 38 against New England, setting a record for the longest catch in Super Bowl history.

Both are Walter Payton Man of the Year award team winners.

"Muhsin Muhammad and Julius Peppers were drafted by the Panthers. Both became All-Pros here. Both came back to Carolina to finish their careers. This is another homecoming, a permanent one," Panthers owner David Tepper said in a release. □



In this Dec. 24, 2017, file photo, Carolina Panthers' Julius Peppers (90) looks on from the sidelines during the first half of an NFL football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Charlotte, N.C., Dec. 24, 2017.

Associated Press

Yankees' Gerrit Cole and Diamondbacks' Zac Gallen to start MLB All-Star Game

By **RONALD BLUM**
AP Baseball Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — The New York Yankees' Gerrit Cole will start Tuesday night's All-Star Game for the American League and Arizona's Zac Gallen will open on the mound for the NL.

AL manager Dusty Baker of Houston and NL manager Rob Thomson of Philadelphia announced their starting lineups on Monday before the annual Home Run Derby.

Cole will start for the first time in his sixth All-Star nod. He is 9-2 with a 2.85 ERA and 123 strikeouts in 117 innings.

The 32-year-old right-hander joins Lefty Gomez (five times), Red Ruffing (twice), Hank Borowy, Spud Chandler, Roger Clemens, Whitey Ford, Jimmy Key, Vic Raschi, Met Stottlemyre, Bob Turley and David Wells as Yankees All-Star starters.

"It's always something I wanted to do," Cole said. Gallen, a 27-year-old right-hander, is 11-3 with a 3.04 ERA, tied for the major league lead in wins.

The first-time All-Star has 125 strikeouts in 118 1/3 innings and becomes the third Diamondbacks pitcher to start



New York Yankees pitcher Gerrit Cole pitches against the Chicago Cubs during the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, July 8, 2023, in New York.

Associated Press

an All-Star Game after Randy Johnson in 2000 and '01 and Curt Schilling in 2002. Gallen said he learned of the starting assignment last Wednesday and had been telling "white lies" since then, including to his family. "It's been a whirlwind really," Gallen said.

"This is something I dreamed of as a kid, so for it to come to fruition is everything and more."

Yankees and Diamondbacks are All-Star starting pitchers for the time since Clemens and Johnson in the 2001 game at Seattle. Baker said Sunday that

Cole wouldn't pitch in the All-Star Game because he would be going on two days' rest after throwing 103 pitches in a 9-2 win over the Chicago Cubs in New York on Saturday.

"Hey, if a man like Gerrit Cole wants to pitch, I'll let him pitch," Baker said Mon-

day. "I feel like I'm physically able to do it," Cole added. Gallen last pitched Friday, throwing 96 pitches in a 7-3 win over Pittsburgh. "Zac's numbers just came off the page for us," Thomson said. "The numbers are incredible. He's had a great year."

Baker's AL batting order has Texas second baseman Marcus Semien leading off, followed by Los Angeles Angels designated hitter Shohei Ohtani, Tampa Bay left fielder Randy Arozarena, Texas shortstop Corey Seager, Rays first baseman Yandy Díaz, Rangers right fielder Adolis García, Baltimore center fielder Austin Hays, Texas third baseman Josh Jung and Rangers catcher Jonah Heim.

Atlanta right fielder Ronald Acuña Jr. leads off for the NL, followed by Los Angeles Dodgers first baseman Freddie Freeman, Dodgers center fielder Mookie Betts, Dodgers designated hitter J.D. Martinez, St. Louis third baseman Nolan Arenado, Miami second baseman Luis Arraez, Braves catcher Sean Murphy, Arizona rookie left fielder Corbin Carroll and Atlanta shortstop Orlando Arcia. □



Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard brings the ball up against the New York Knicks during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

Associated Press

Blazers say they're willing to wait months to resolve Lillard saga if necessary

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Damian Lillard wants to be traded to the Miami Heat.

The Portland Trail Blazers know this yet haven't abandoned hope that the seven-time All-Star changes his mind.

And whether he does or not, the Blazers insist that they're in no hurry.

General manager Joe Cronin, at the news conference where the team formally unveiled its new five-year, \$160 million contract with Jerami Grant, spoke at

length about the impasse with Lillard. He offered no specifics on talks not negotiating publicly and revealed that he hasn't spoken with Lillard since the franchise cornerstone asked to be traded.

"We're going to be patient," Cronin said. "We're going to do what's best for our team. We're going to see, you know, how this lands.

And if it takes months, it takes months."

Lillard's trade request became publicly known on July 1, the first full day of

free agency in the NBA. After the Blazers revealed that Lillard who has spent all 11 of his pro seasons in Portland asked out, agent Aaron Goodwin confirmed days later that the seven-time All-NBA selection wants to go to Miami.

"Dame's position won't change," Goodwin told The Associated Press last week.

"This entire situation was about building an opportunity for Portland to win or giving him another opportunity that he wants, which is Miami." □